Investment in the field of Broadcasting

†*410. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKAR DAVE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are some multinational companies which are interested in making investment and have offered their participation in the field of broadcasting;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have shown interest in their investment proposals; and

(d) if so, the details of action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITELY) : (a) to (d) Indian comapnies have been allowed to set up FM radio stations in India. Terrestrial television broadcasting is not allowed for private companies. In regard to satellite based TV broadcasting, uplinking from India is allowed only to Indian companies with minimum 80% of Indian shareholding and having Indian management control. Therefore the question of participation of Multinational companies in Broadcasting does not arise.

Selling Off ITDC

*411. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether modalities of ITDC sell off have been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the global adviser in this regard would be appointed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITELY) : (a) and (b) The Government has accepted the recommendations of Disinvestment Commission in regard to ITDC. The main recommendations of the Commission are as under :

(i) Hotels situated in prime locations like Delhi and Bangalore may be handed over to established hotel chains through a competitive bidding process to be run on a long term structured contract on lease-cum-management basis.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.